

December 14, 1957

Dear Art:

Welcome back to civilization.

Through great good luck, I think I will be able to take you up on your invitation to visit, if you're still able and willing to have us. The microbiology study session for the NIH has been vacillating between New Orleans and Bethesda for its meeting next month, and the last time I set out to write you, the situation suddenly shifted.

But it looks fairly definite now that it will be New Orleans, and we would like to take the opportunity to stop over.

The meeting will be Thursday-Saturday, January 9-11. I suggest we might come down Tuesday and leave Wednesday night; I haven't looked into bookings for air or train yet. That would give us about 30 hours in St. Louis altogether, and you could schedule a lecture, if you wanted, for Wednesday morning.

Actually, we would prefer to make the visit after the meeting, to use Sunday for travelling, but you had written you would be away the week of January 12. If that no longer holds, please let us know.

Esther will be accompanying me in any case. The NIH will be paying my fare to New Orleans of course; if you can still arrange the expenses so that her trip is covered thereby, tant mieux.

Best wishes for the season, and to Sylvia.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

P.S. I hope you weren't too impressed by Chargaff's note in Nature (Oct. 26)— at least on the genetic side, I wasn't.

P.P.S. Jack Strominger was here yesterday, and I very much enjoyed scheming with him. If our visit at the time indicated fits your plans, would you let him know about it?